



**HALSTEAD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR

1964

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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Incorporated Public Health Engineer

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M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

BERNARD J. DAVIES

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ILLTYD C. THOMAS

M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

(to 10.4.64)

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A.R.S.H.

(from 1.7.64)

Chief Clerk

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(from 26.10.64)

Part-time Rodent Operator

FRANK ANDREWS

Also Part-time Rodent Operator,
Halstead Rural District Council,
Braintree Urban District Council,
Braintree Rural District Council and
Witham Urban District Council.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HALSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS JOYCE AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health of the District during 1964.

Vital Statistics

The estimated population is 6,650 and there were 126 live births and 1 still birth which gives a birth rate of 20.1 compared with 18.4 for England and Wales.

The death rate of 9.6 per 1,000 of the population compared with 11.3 for England and Wales.

Infectious Diseases

There were few cases of infectious disease during the year. The proposed controlled trial of measles vaccine has commenced and it is hoped that a satisfactory vaccine will be available for general use in the near future. It is often said that measles is one of the incidents of growing up, and nothing should be done about it. However, a survey completed during the year showed that the complications of measles even in this country are not negligible and in overseas countries a measles epidemic can have catastrophic results.

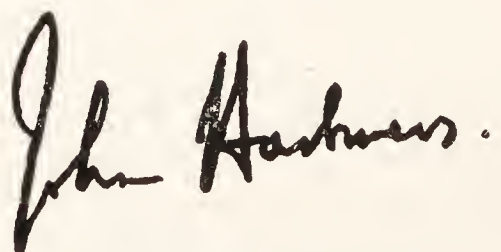
The Aberdeen typhoid outbreak focussed public attention on the need for adequate food hygiene to be practised by all those who take any part in the handling of food. The repercussions of the outbreak were felt in this district by the necessity of the Public Health Staff checking all shops for suspected tins of corned beef.

Immunisation and Vaccination

These services have continued as in previous years by the General Practitioners and the County Council's Medical Staff. Their importance cannot be over emphasised. Cases of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis still occur in various parts of the country and it is generally found that the overall level of the immune population has fallen to a very low level. In this area the percentage of children protected is over 80 per cent. and efforts are being made to increase it and also to ensure that the necessary booster doses are being carried out.

Environmental Hygiene

This has been fully covered by the Report of the Public Health Inspector. Progress in Housing Improvements continues but there are probably still about 25 per cent. of the houses in the district without the basic essentials of a fixed bath and a hot water system. During the year the Council improved 52 houses to provide these amenities.



Medical Officer of Health.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HALSTEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS JOYCE AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting, in conjunction with the Report of the Medical Officer of Health, my seventh Annual Report, which gives details of the services provided by your Public Health Inspectors during the year 1964.

The Report follows the customary pattern in giving statistical details required by various statutory provisions. Explanatory comment to assist in appreciating the figures, is given under the respective subject headings, but there are some matters which warrant comment in this introduction.

The Council's services for which my Department is responsible were provided efficiently for maintaining and raising the environmental public health standards in the town, and the improvements and progress detailed in the Report were due in great measure to the hard work and enthusiasm of a loyal staff, the support of the Public Health Committee and Council, and the co-operation of the other Chief Officers of the Council, to all of whom I am most grateful.

Food

Duties in connection with the inspection and supervision of food supplies again occupied a very appreciable proportion of your Public Health Inspectors' time. The standard of hygiene on the whole was satisfactory, and no serious contraventions were observed during the year. The outbreak of a Typhoid Fever epidemic in Aberdeen which occurred in May and June emphasised the importance of food hygiene, particularly the need for adequate hand washing facilities in food shops. It is not always appreciated that the need for hand washing is the normal high incidence of gastro-intestinal infection, food poisoning and dysentery, the frequency with which these infections spread and the fact that the major cause of their spread is the lack of hand washing.

100% meat inspection continued to be carried out and this involved inspections being carried out during evenings. The statutory requirement for meat to be inspected and marked after being passed as fit for human consumption will help to ensure that only such meat will be exposed for sale, and the Public Health Inspector's stamp thereon will give the public visible evidence of its fitness.

Water

Routine sampling of water supplies confirmed the Council's main supply to be satisfactory both chemically and bacteriologically, and routine sampling of the public swimming bath water showed it to be bacteriologically satisfactory, but not always to attain a high standard of clarity.

Air Pollution

The Council participated in the National Survey of Atmospheric Pollution and daily volumetric measurements of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere were taken. Comparison of measurements in Halstead with those in London areas and Rural areas are of interest.

Housing

Housing in its many aspects took priority in the work of your Public Health Inspectors. The routine repair and improvement of houses proceeded reasonably satisfactorily, and the Slum Clearance Schemes and the Improvement Grants Schemes also maintained steady progress. These have all continued to contribute to the steadily improving social conditions in the district. The new compulsory powers for the improvement of dwellings with grant aid, introduced by the Housing Act, 1964, were not implemented. The number of condemned unfit houses which have continued to be occupied is still high (27), and there is a need to secure the more rapid vacation and the reconditioning or demolition of such houses by increasing the rate of rehousing. Some progress was made on the Trinity Square Clearance Area, reported in October, 1960, but no progress on the Mount Pleasant Clearance Area reported in December, 1960.

Workplaces

Factories, Workplaces, Outworkers and Shops inspection duties did not receive the time and attention they merit, but no serious defects at these premises were notified by H.M. Inspector of Factories or by private complainants.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, which came into operation during the year, made provision for ensuring that persons employed in these premises enjoy the same protection to their health, safety and welfare as has been enjoyed by factory workers for many years.

Miscellaneous

Complaints and investigations of the various nuisances from noise, effluvia, keeping of animals and poultry, etc., were about average, as were also rodent and insect pest infestations. The miscellaneous licensed premises were satisfactory.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Miss Joyce and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,



Public Health Inspector.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	1,732
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	6,650
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1964) according to the Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	2,472
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£200,035
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£762

Live Births:

					Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	121	58	63
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	5	2	3
Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	..	18.9
Birth rate (corrected by comparability factor of 1.06)	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.1
Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	...	18.4

Still Births:

					Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.9
Total births (live and still)	...	...	...	...	...	...	127

Infant and Maternal Mortality:

Deaths of infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.9
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.3
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Neo-natal mortality rate (first four weeks)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.9
Early neo-natal mortality rate (first week)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.9
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and first week)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.7
Illegitimate live births per cent, of total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.0
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Deaths:

					Total	Male	Female
Deaths	...	...	...	...	74	35	39
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.1
Death rate (corrected by comparability factor of 0.86)	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.6
Death rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.3

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1964

Disease	Male	Female
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	0	0
Tuberculosis (other)	0	0
Syphilitic disease	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Whooping cough	0	0
Meningococcal infections	0	0
Acute poliomyelitis	0	0
Measles	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	2	0
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ..	0	2
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	0	0
Diabetes	0	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	5
Coronary disease, angina	12	8
Hypertension with heart disease	0	0
Other heart disease	1	7
Other circulatory disease	1	2
Influenza	0	0
Pneumonia	2	2
Bronchitis	2	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	0	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0
Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0
Congenital malformation	0	0
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	5
Motor vehicle accidents	3	0
All other accidents	0	1
Suicide	0	3
Homicide and operations of war	0	0
Totals	35	39

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Disease				Total Cases notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0	0	0
Dysentery	...	...	..	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	0	0	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0	0	0
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	0	0	0
Infectious Hepatitis	...	...	...	0	0	0
Measles	...	...	...	19	0	0
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	1	1	0
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	0	0	0
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	...	..	...	0	0	0
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	..	...	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	...	...	...	1	1	0
Tuberculosis (Non-pulmonary)	...	...	...	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	4	0	0
Totals				25	2	0

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases notified: 1.

Transfer from other Districts: 1.

Deaths from Tuberculosis: 0.

1. FOOD

(a) Food Premises Inspections

Details of food premises in the District, and of inspections made by your Public Health Inspectors of the food therein, the hygiene of the processes, and the structure and cleanliness of the premises were:—

Type of Food Premises	No. in District	No. of Inspections
Bakehouses	3	4
Bread Distribution Depots	1	1
Egg Packing and Liquid Egg Preparation Premises	0	0
Fish Shops and Fish Fryers	3	7
Game Dealers' Premises (Licensed)	2	2
General Provision Shops	37	42
Ice Cream Premises (Registered)	31	29
Meat Products Premises (Registered)	5	15
Meat Shops	5	15
Poultry Dressing Premises	0	0
Public Houses and Inns	29	4
Restaurants and Cafes	3	11
School Kitchens	1	3
Slaughterhouses	1	161
Street Vendors	—	19
Works Canteens	4	0
Miscellaneous	—	6
Totals	125	319

Food poisoning investigations	2
Informal notices served	14
Food premises improved	17
Food vehicles improved	3

No Clean Food Guilds were inaugurated or existed during the year. Food traders were co-operative in securing the hygienic handling and storage of food. Progress in this matter is very dependent upon public opinion.

(b) Food Premises Improvements

	Structural Works	Decorations and Cleaning	Lighting and Ventilation	Cold Water Supply	Hot Water Supply	Washing Facilities	Food Storage Facilities	Refuse Storage Facilities	Drainage	Sanitary Accommodation	Name and Address Displayed	Wash-hand Notices Displayed	Total
Fish Shops and Fish Fryers	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
General Provision Shops	1	3	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	2	11
Restaurants and Cafes	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
Food Vehicles	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
Totals	2	7	0	0	0	6	0	4	0	0	1	2	22

(c) Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouses

One slaughterhouse was licensed by the Council, used by a local butcher during the year and slaughtering was carried out on three days per week. This regular slaughtering of animals at fixed times on fixed days was approved by the Council.

All animals slaughtered in the District were inspected in accordance with statutory requirements for fitness of the meat and offal for human consumption and, if passed, marked before leaving the slaughterhouse.

Charges for meat inspection of 2/6 per bovine animal or horse, 9d. per calf or pig, and 6d. per sheep, lamb or goat remained in force.

Details of meat inspection carried out by your Public Health Inspectors at the slaughterhouse are given in the following table:—

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. Killed	349	0	2	1,050	467	0
No. Inspected	349	0	2	1,050	467	0
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>						
(a) Whole carcasses condemned ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	49	0	1	6	1	0
(c) Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	14.04	0	50.00	0.57	0.21	0
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
(a) Whole carcasses condemned ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	0	0	0	0	0
(c) Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.29	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
(a) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	0	0	0	0	0	0
(c) Generalised and totally condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0

Licensed Slaughtermen 8.

(d) Unsound Food

It was not necessary to make any seizures of food. Vendors co-operated satisfactorily in reporting suspected food, which resulted in the following commodities being voluntarily surrendered:—

Beef	...	...	...	497 lbs.
Mutton	...	...	...	10 lbs.
Pork	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Veal	...	...	...	20 lbs.
Frozen Foods	...	...	...	120 lbs.
Tinned Foods	...	...	...	394 lbs.
Miscellaneous Foods	...	...	...	99 lbs.
Total				<hr/> 1,142 lbs. <hr/>

This condemned food was stained and disposed of by burial in deep refuse pits.

No special examinations of whole stocks or consignments of food were necessary during the year.

(e) Milk and Dairies

The Council remained responsible for the registration of dairies other than dairy farms and of distributors, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for the supervision of dairy farms. Dealers' licences were granted by the Essex County Council as Food and Drugs Authority, and permitted sales outside as well as inside the area of the licensing authority.

Bacteriological milk sampling and also sampling for biological examination for tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus was carried out by the Essex County Council.

The 4 registered dairy premises were all visited by your Public Health Inspectors during the year.

(f) Ice Cream

There were no premises in District registered for the manufacture of ice cream, but 31 premises were registered for the sale only of pre-packed ice cream.

No samples of ice cream and ice lollies were taken for bacteriological examination on account of inability to obtain supplies of refrigerant locally.

(g) **General**

Four complaints were received during the year regarding unfit food, food handlers' unhygienic practices or uncleanly food premises, as follows:—

Food	Complaint
Milk Bottle	Contaminated with paint.
Pork Sausages	Mouldy.
Tinned Peaches	Unsound. Faulty tinning.
Tinned Steak	Foreign object. Blowfly, native to Africa but not found in Europe.

In each case detailed investigations were carried out and appropriate informal action taken. There is, however, a well known marked reticence on the part of the public generally in making official complaints regarding these matters.

No prosecutions regarding food or food premises were instituted during the year.

In June, following the outbreak of a Typhoid Fever epidemic in Aberdeen which was thought to be associated with 6lb. tins of corned beef and tongue bearing certain identifying marks, the Ministry of Health suggested that all shops and feeding establishments using such tins should be checked and that where any tins of the particular type were found they should be withdrawn as a precautionary measure.

All such premises throughout the District were visited or circularised but relatively few were found to use these large tins. Of those that did, none had any of the type suspected.

The County Council as Food and Drugs Authority were responsible for the taking of samples for chemical analysis of food and drugs, milk, ice cream, etc., but details of such sampling were not notified to the Urban District Council.

2. WATER

The water supply of the area was generally satisfactory both in respect of quality and quantity. Water from the Council's Undertaking was chlorinated but not treated by softening and as a routine procedure samples were submitted for bacteriological laboratory examination and included some of the raw water direct from the borewell. Samples for chemical analysis were also taken.

The water consumption in the District from public piped mains supplies was estimated to be 41.2 gallons per head per day. This is based upon the Council's Water Engineer's calculations of:—

(a) Estimated population served	...	6.650
(b) Water supplied during year from:—		
(a) Council's borewell	... ..	98,948,000 gallons
(b) Halstead Rural District Council mains	... ..	2,199,000 gallons
(c) Bulk supply from Council's mains to Halstead Rural Council of	...	1,199,000 gallons

The new reservoir at Oak Road and the new pumping and distribution mains were brought into use in January and the chlorination plant in September.

During the year the following work was carried out by your Public Health Inspectors:—

(a) Inspections regarding water supplies	... ..	28
(b) Statutory Notices served re water supplies	...	0
(c) Informal Notices served re water supplies	...	0
(d) Samples of water submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination. Details of these are given in the following table	... ..	17

Source	No. of Samples	Wholesome	Below Standard
Public Water Mains	16	15	1
Private Water Mains	0	0	0
Public Wells, etc.	0	0	0
Private Wells, etc.	1	1	0
Totals	17	16	1

(e) Samples of water examined for Chlorine content	9
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A typical Chemical Analysis of the Public Mains Water Supply is given in the following table:—

Examination For	Parts per million	Examination For	Parts per million
Turbidity	Less than 3	Hardness: Carbonate (Temporary)	285
Colour	5	Non-Carbonate (Permanent)	10
Odour	Nil	Nitrate Nitrogen ...	0.0
pH	7.5		Less than 0.01
Free Carbon Dioxide ...	20	Nitrite Nitrogen ...	0.16
Electric Conductivity ...	710	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.00
Dissolved Solids Dried at 180°C.	470	Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.15
Chlorine present as Chloride	78	Oxygen Absorbed ...	0.22
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	285	Residual Chlorine ...	0.50
Hardness: Total ...	295	Metals: Iron	Absent
		Zinc	Absent
		Copper, Lead, Manganese, etc	0.7
		Fluorine	

Public Swimming Baths.

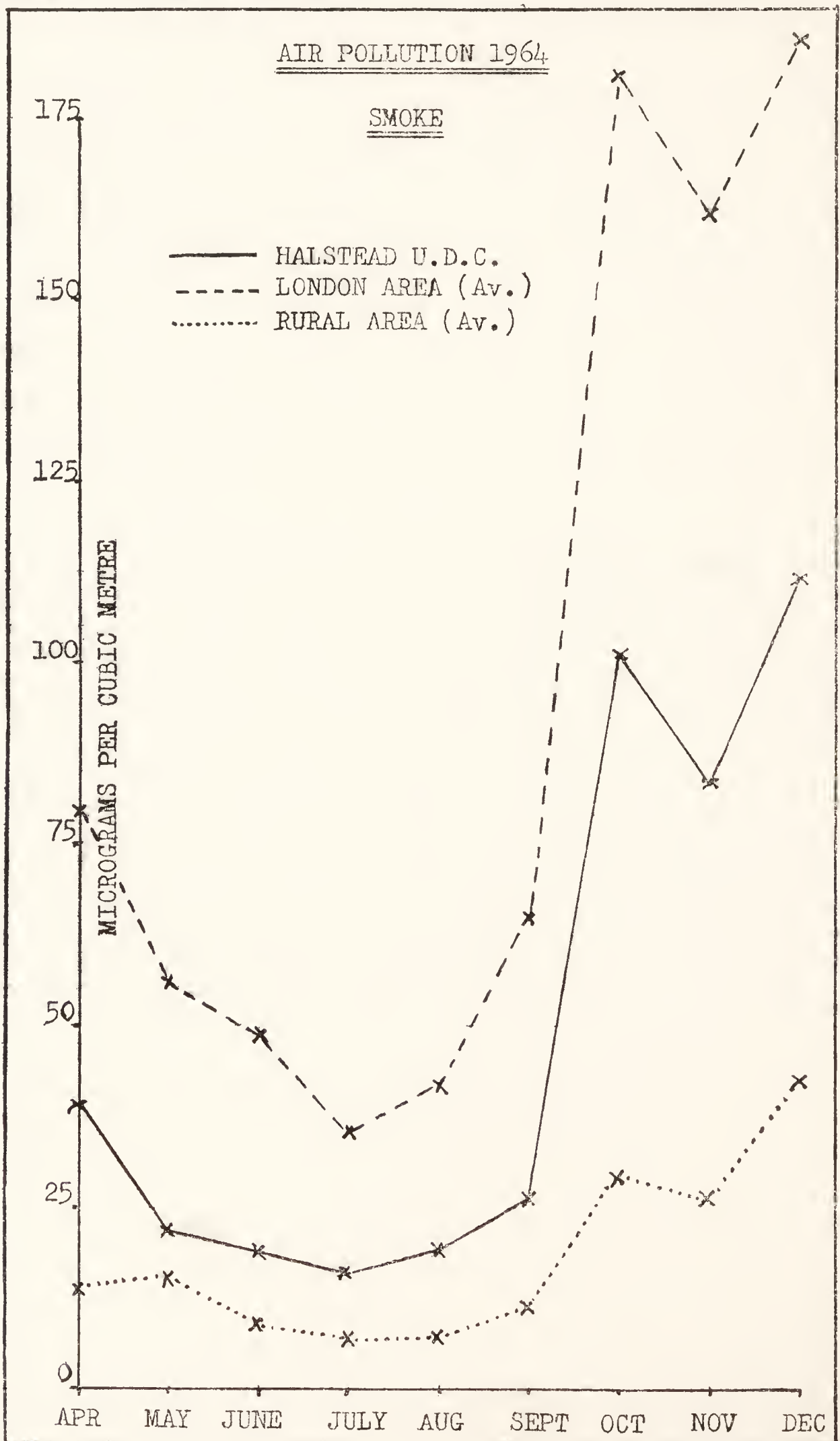
The Council's public swimming baths were again used during May to September, each week from Friday to Tuesday, being emptied Wednesdays and filled Thursdays with water from the Council's Undertaking. Hand chlorination was carried out and for the first time an algacide was used, with some success, to secure improved clarity and purification and facilitate cleansing. As a routine procedure samples of the baths water during use were examined for estimation of residual chlorine content, and submitted for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination.

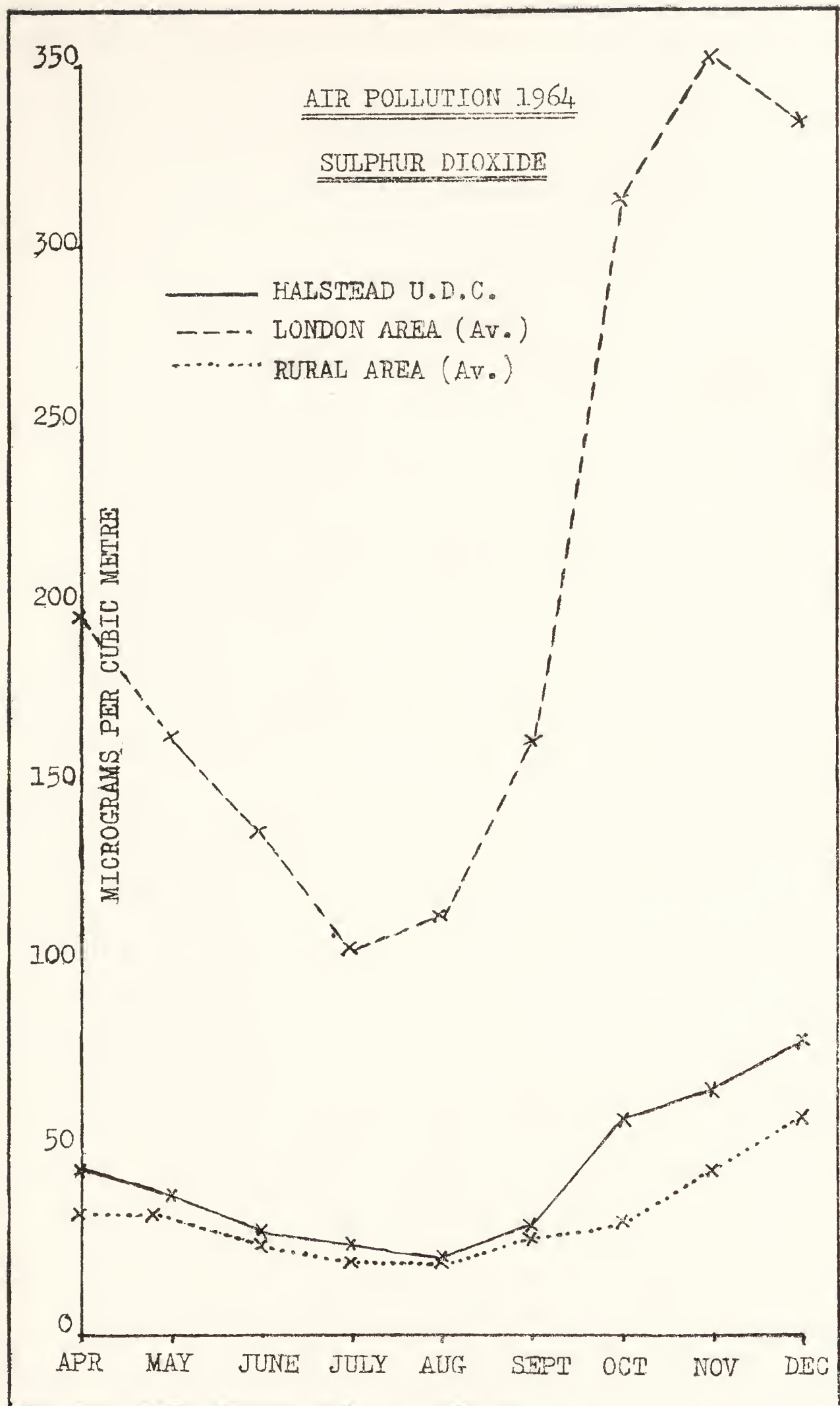
During the open season 31 visits were made. 19 routine samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and found to be suitable for bathing purposes with the exception of two samples taken in May and July which failed to attain the prescribed high standard, due to under chlorination. 19 samples were also taken for chemical analysis and five failed to attain a high standard of clarity due partly to iron content. 12 samples were taken for estimation of residual chlorine content and all were satisfactory with the exception of two samples taken in May and July, corresponding with the unsatisfactory bacteriological samples

3. AIR POLLUTION

Consequent upon the Council's decision to co-operate in the National Survey of Atmospheric Pollution, apparatus for the daily volumetric measurement of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere was installed in a suitable site at St. Andrew's Works. Measurement of pollution commenced in April and the information obtained was forwarded monthly to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

The following graphs show the variation in pollution throughout the year, and it is interesting to compare this with measurements taken in London areas and Rural areas.





(a) **New Furnace and Chimney Installations**

(1)	Notices submitted with plans and specifications of proposals to install furnaces and chimneys to which the Clean Air Act applies	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(2)	Approvals granted of such plans and specifications for the purposes of the Clean Air Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

(b) **Air Pollution Nuisances**

(1)	Investigations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
(2)	Confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(3)	Abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

[illegible]

(a) Housing Inspections

(1)	Inspections regarding disrepair and sanitary defects	...	...	235
(2)	Houses fully surveyed and recorded	...	...	20
(3)	Inspections regarding reconditioning	...	...	38
(4)	Inspections regarding overcrowding	...	...	2
(5)	Inspections regarding Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	1
(6)	Inspections of moveable dwellings	...	...	1
(7)	Miscellaneous Housing inspections	...	...	180
(8)	Investigations of applications for Council house tenancies	...	...	0

(b) Housing Notices

(1)	Informal Notices served regarding disrepair and defects	...	8
(2)	Statutory Notices served under Housing Act regarding disrepair and defects	... ..	0
(3)	Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act regarding disrepair and defects	... ..	0

Property owners responded satisfactorily to informal procedure requesting the repair and improvement of dwelling houses.

(c) Unfit Houses

(1)	Houses Officially Reported Unfit to Council under Housing Act	2
(2)	(a) Undertakings accepted (i) to make fit for human habitation	0
	(ii) not to use for human habitation	0
	(b) Undertakings cancelled	0
	(c) Accumulated total of outstanding Undertakings (Dec. 1964)	
	(i) to make fit for human habitation	0
	(ii) not to use for human habitation	7
(3)	(a) Closing Orders made	1
	(b) Closing Orders determined	0
	(c) Accumulated total of outstanding Closing Orders (Dec. 1964)	12
(4)	(a) Demolition Orders made	9
	(b) Demolition Orders revoked	0
	(c) Accumulated total of outstanding Demolition Orders (Dec. 1964)	19
(5)	(a) Houses made subject to Compulsory Purchase Orders	0
	(b) Accumulated total of houses subject to outstanding Compulsory Purchase Orders (Dec., 1964)	22

(d) **Slum Clearance Proposals**

Details of the Council's ten years 1956/65 Slum Clearance Proposals are given in the following tables which show

- (1) the approved proposals,
- (2) the year by year progress made, and
- (3) the present position.

(1)

Houses in District	Unfit Houses	Houses to be demolished during 5 year period 1956/60
2,265	132	49

(2)

Year	Houses Reported Unfit	Undertakings Accepted	Closing Orders Made	Demolition Orders Made	Houses Made Subject to Clearance Orders	Houses Made Subject to Compulsory Purchase Orders	Houses Made Fit	Houses Demolished
1956	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
1957	36	13	16	10	0	0	0	3
1958	4	2	0	1	0	0	1	11
1959	23	0	0	4	18	0	6	16
1960	46	0	5	2	0	0	2	7
1961	22	0	2	16	0	0	1	16
1962	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	7
1963	5	0	4	5	0	24	0	4
1964	2	0	1	9	0	0	0	15
Totals	150	16	30	48	18	24	10	79

(3)

Total Houses in Slum Clearance Proposals 31.12.55.	Unfit Houses Considered by Council and subject to							Unfit Houses made fit or demolished	Unfit Houses awaiting Report to Council	
	Undertakings	Closing Orders	Demolition Orders	Clearance Orders	Compulsory Purchase Orders	Action Pending				Total
						Deferred by Council	Other			
132 + 25	7	12	19	0	22	8	0	68	89	0
Total Houses Occupied 27	1	8	7	0	11					

(e) **Housing Improvements**

(1) Houses reconditioned or repaired following informal action by Public Health Inspectors	39
(2) Houses fully reconditioned to the "Twelve Points Standard"	7
(3) Houses repaired following Statutory Housing Act Notices	0
(4) Houses repaired following Statutory Public Health Act Notices	0
(5) Houses reconditioned following Statutory Housing Act Orders	0
(6) Houses demolished following Statutory Demolition Orders under Housing Act	15

(f) **Housing Improvement Grants**

(1) Applications for Discretionary Improvement Grants	2
(2) Discretionary Improvement Grants approved	2
(3) Schemes completed	1

Details regarding Discretionary Improvement Grants are given in the following table:—

Year	Applications			Completions	
	Received	Approved	Grant Approved	No.	Grant Paid
1949 to 1954	0	0	—	0	—
1955	14	7	£1,231 12. 10.	6	£1,036 12. 4.
1956	0	0	—	1	£195 0. 6.
1957	0	0	—	0	—
1958	0	0	—	0	—
1959	5	5	£689 0. 0.	2	£240 0. 0.
1960	9	9	£1,649 0. 0.	5	£759 0. 0.
1961	4	4	£832 0. 0.	6	£1,171 0. 0.
1962	3	3	£620 0. 0.	4	£649 0. 0.
1963	4	4	£852 0. 0.	5	£1,072 0. 0.
1964	2	2	£360 0. 0.	1	£175 0. 0.
Totals	41	34	£6,233 12. 10.	30	£5,297 12. 10.

(4) Applications for Standard Grants	8
(5) Standard Grants approved	8
(6) Schemes completed	6

Details regarding Standard Grants are given in the following table:—

Year	Applications			Completions		
	Received	Approved	Maximum Grant Approved	No.	Amount of Standard Grant	
					Maximum Approved	Actual Paid
1959	5	5	£570	0	—	—
1960	11	11	£1,370	9	£1,050	£693 16. 6.
1961	10	10	£1,065	15	£1,765	£1,254 1. 3.
1962	10	10	£1,520	4	£610	£478 3. 5.
1963	6	6	£910	5	£675	£604 16. 7.
1964	8	8	£1,190	6	£880	£698 9. 2.
Totals	50	50	£6,625	39	£4,980	£3,729 6. 11.

(7) Houses subject to Grants were occupied as follows:—

Year	Improvement Grants			Standard Grants		
	Owner	Tenant	Total	Owner	Tenant	Total
1949 to 1954	0	0	0			
1955	3	4	7			
1956	0	0	0			
1957	0	0	0			
1958	0	0	0			
1959	3	2	5	4	1	5
1960	1	8	9	9	2	11
1961	4	0	4	9	1	10
1962	2	1	3	8	2	10
1963	1	3	4	4	2	6
1964	1	1	2	7	1	8
Totals	15	19	34	41	9	50

(8) Loans made by Council for Repairing or Improving Houses 0

(g) **Rent Act**

(1) Applications for Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	0
(2) Decisions to issue Certificates	...	...	...	0
(3) Undertakings given by Landlords	...	...	...	0
(4) Certificates of Disrepair issued	...	...	...	0
(5) Applications for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	0
(6) Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	0
(7) Certificates of Disrepair cancelled	...	...	...	0

(h) **Housing Overcrowding.**

(1) Overcrowded houses existing December, 1963	...	...	0
(2) Overcrowded houses found during 1964	...	...	0
(3) Overcrowded houses relieved during 1964	...	...	0
(4) Overcrowded houses existing December, 1964	...	...	0

(i) **Caravan Sites**

There were no caravan site licences in force in the District.

(j) **Miscellaneous**

During the year 26 houses were built by private enterprise and 16 houses and 9 two-bedroom bungalows by the Council. 52 existing Council houses were variously improved to present day standards of amenity by the provision of bathrooms, hot water supplies, etc.

Houses owned by the Council at the end of the year were:—

Pre-war. Houses	...	...	...	...	...	341
Post-war. Houses and Bungalows	...	...	...	...	...	393
(including 20 temporary prefabricated bungalows)						
Flats and flatlets	...	...	...	...	...	104
(2 blocks of 24, 2 blocks of 16, 3 blocks of 8)						

5. WORKPLACES

(a) Factories

(1) Inspections and Notices

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	19	15	1	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	44	19	1	0
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	0	0	0	0
Totals	63	34	2	0

(2) Defects Found and Remedied

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	0	0	0
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	2	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	6	6	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act 'not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	12	12	0	0	0

(3) Outworkers

Nature of Outwork	Section 133			Section 134		Inspections
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 133 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel —Making, etc.	2	0	0	0	0	0
						3

(b) Offices, Shops and Railway Premises

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963, which made provision for the health, safety and welfare of people employed in these premises, came into operation on the 1st August, 1964.

Employers were required to register premises by 1st August, but in spite of extensive national and local publicity only about two-thirds of the premises covered by the Act had been registered by the end of the year. One accident, of a minor nature which did not necessitate investigation, was reported, but no applications were received for exemption from the provisions relating to room space for employees, temperature, sanitary conveniences and running water supply to washing facilities.

No inspections were carried out during the year as the Technical Assistant appointed for this work had not commenced duties.

Details of premises registered were:—

Class of Premises	Premises registered during year	Registered premises at end of year	Registered premises general inspection	Total visits of all kinds	Persons employed	
					Male	Female
Offices	22	22	0	0	75	98
Retail Shops	46	44	0	0	92	142
Wholesale shops, warehouses ...	2	2	0	0	26	0
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ...	3	3	0	0	3	4
Fuel storage depots ...	2	2	0	0	15	0
Totals ...	75	73	0	0	211	244

(c) Miscellaneous

Certificates of Exemption granted (shops) ...	...	...	...	0
Certificates of Exemption (shops) in operation	...	...	...	0

6. WASTE MATTERS

(a) Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Public Sewerage and Sewage Disposal was part of the duties of your Surveyor. The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the District were reasonably adequate, but it became increasingly apparent that enlargement would be required to deal with increasing sewage flows from the existing steady development and anticipated future growth of the town.

No new works of sewerage or sewage disposal or important additions to existing works were carried out. The first part of a scheme for the extension of the Langley Mill Sewage Disposal Works which had been originally submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1963 was under further consideration of suggestions made by the Ministry.

No inspections were made by your Public Health Inspectors of public sewers following complaints.

(b) Drainage

1. Drainage investigations and advisory visits	...	...	6
2. Drainage inspections	...	...	20
3. Inspections of ditches, water courses, etc.	...	...	0
4. Drainage tests	...	...	0
5. Informal notices served	...	...	2
6. Statutory notices served	...	...	0

As a result of informal action by Public Health Inspectors, four drains were reconstructed, and three drains cleansed.

(c) Refuse Storage and Disposal

Public cleansing was part of the duties of your Surveyor. The Council possessed one refuse collecting vehicle which removed house refuse at weekly intervals. Refuse was disposed of on a refuse dump at Sible Hedingham in the Halstead Rural District.

Four inspections of the refuse dump and 16 inspections regarding refuse accumulations and storage were made. Two informal notices were served regarding refuse accumulation and five regarding provision of dustbins.

As a result of informal action by Public Health Inspectors one refuse accumulation was removed and seven dustbins provided.

7. PESTS

(a) Insect Pests

The District continued to be comparatively free from insect pest infestation. No premises were found with bed bug infestation. Twelve inspections were made by Public Health Inspectors in connection with insect pests and nine premises were disinfested in respect of ants, carpet beetles, flies and wasps.

(b) Rodent Control

The Council operated a rat and mouse disinfestation service for occupiers of private and business premises on a basis of repayment of the cost of time, transport and materials. Poison bait was also issued free to private householders.

There was no unduly high incidence of rat and mouse infestations in the District. The Council's public sewers and refuse dumps were rat disinfested as a routine measure in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food requirements.

Details of Rodent Control work carried out by your Public Health Inspectors and part-time Rodent Operator during the year were:—

	Type of Property				
	Under the Act				Agricultural
	1 Local Authority	2 Dwelling Houses Inc. Council Houses	3 All other (Inc. Business Premises)	4 Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
I. Number of properties in District ...	11	2,371	668	3,050	17
II. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	0	2	4	6	0
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common rat Major	0	0	0	0	0
Minor	0	2	4	6	0
Ship rat Major	0	0	0	0	0
Minor	0	0	0	0	0
House mouse Major	0	0	0	0	0
Minor	0	0	0	0	0
III. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act ...	11	32	1	44	0
Number of such properties found to be infested by:—					
Common rat Major	0	0	0	0	0
Minor	0	8	1	9	0
Ship rat Major	0	0	0	0	0
Minor	0	0	0	0	0
House mouse Major	0	0	0	0	0
Minor	0	4	0	4	0

IV. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose) Number of such properties found to be infested by:—	0	244	36	280	3
Common rat Major	0	0	0	0	0
Common rat Minor	0	3	0	3	0
Ship rat Major	0	0	0	0	0
Ship rat Minor	0	0	0	0	0
House mouse Major	0	0	0	0	0
House mouse Minor	0	2	0	2	0
V. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections	22	315	48	385	5
VI. Number of infested properties (in Sections II, III & IV) treated by the L.A. ...	0	10	4	14	0
VII. Total treatments carried out — including re-treatments.	0	14	4	18	0
VIII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ...	0	0	1	1	0
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	0	0	0	0	0
IX. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act	0	0	0	0	0
X. Legal Proceedings	0	0	0	0	0
XI. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	Two, in respect of 4 and 8 houses.				

Major infestations — 20 to 100 rats.

Minor infestations — 1 to 20 rats.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

The following miscellaneous duties were also carried out by your Public Health Inspectors during the year:—

(a) Noise Nuisances								
(1)	Investigations	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
(2)	Confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(3)	Abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b) Effluvia Nuisances								
(1)	Investigations	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
(2)	Confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(3)	Abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(c) Keeping of Animals and Poultry Nuisances								
(1)	Investigations	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
(2)	Confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(3)	Abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(d) Notifiable Diseases								
(1)	Investigations	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(2)	Premises Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(e) Animal Boarding Establishments								
(1)	Licences granted	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(2)	Premises Fully Surveyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(3)	Other Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
The Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963, came into operation on 1st January, 1964, and provided for licensing and inspection of any establishment at which a business of providing accommodation for cats or dogs is carried on, but no applications were received in respect of premises in the Urban District.								
(f) Pet Shops								
(1)	Licences granted	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(2)	Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
(g) Rag Flock Stores								
(1)	Licences granted	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(2)	Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(h) Waste Food Boiling Premises								
(1)	Licences Granted	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(2)	Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
(i) Local Land Charges								
(1)	Reports to Clerk of Council on public health aspects of Official Searches in the Local Land Charges Register	...	...	...	...	...	...	158
(j) Plans								
(1)	Plans deposited under Building Byelaws examined	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

(k) Miscellaneous Housing Matters

There were no registered Common Lodging Houses nor unsatisfactory Houses in Multiple Occupation in the District.

(l) Special Reports

No special reports were submitted to the Council by the Public Health Inspector during the year.

(m) Training of Public Health Workers

Several students (Public Health workers, Teachers, etc.) were conducted on inspection visits of places of public health interest throughout the District.

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